> ⚠️ **Caution**
>
> Avoid giving multiple rows or columns the same label, as the ranges generated from them will likewise share the same name, and can end up being overwritten by Calc.

Database ranges

Although it can be used like a regular named range, a database range is, unsurprisingly, meant to be used like a database table, with each row representing a record and each cell a field within a record. Specifically, a database range differs from a named range in the following ways:

- A database range cannot be a formula expression, only a cell range. This range can be formatted as a table, with the first row reserved for headings and the last row for subtotals. Cell formatting can also be preserved for each field in the table.

- Database ranges cannot be referenced relative to a base address within a sheet.

- Database ranges store sorting, filtering, subtotaling, and data import settings in data structures called *descriptors*, which can be retrieved and accessed using macros.

- A database range can be linked to an external database source, and can be refreshed by selecting **Data > Refresh Range** on the Menu bar. Registering and linking to external database sources are explained in more detail in Chapter 10, Linking Data.

- Database ranges can be created, modified, and deleted using the Define Database Range dialog, which is opened by selecting **Data > Define Range** on the Menu bar (Figure 459).
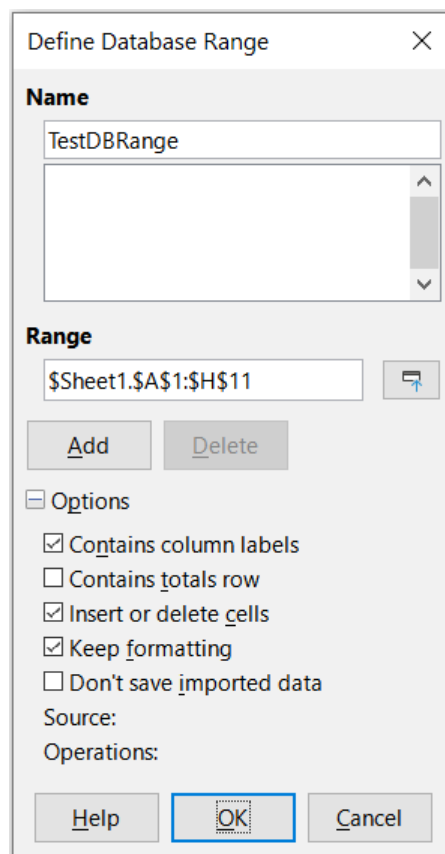

Figure 459: Define Database Range dialog